868 Chelsea Lane
Westerville, Ohio 43081-2716
January 21, 1994

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21702

Dear Harold:

What a pleasant surprise to receive your newly released book Selections From Whitewash. Now readers have a condensed version where they can get the gist of your work; and can always turn to the originals for the other details. This makes your work more accessbile. I also believe that this book, along with the remake of Frame-up will pave the way in a constructive manner for your next two.

I also believe that it serves another important purpose. After all your efforts for nearly thirty years in this field, it is finally the recognition that you have earned, not just in the research community, where I believe it always was, as your work pioneered the rest, but with the public in general. I am well aware that this is not what you sought, but it is nonetheless well deserved. Again, not because you sought it, I also hope that you are fairly financially rewarded for your efforts so that you may do more of what you wish unhampered by financial considerations. Just a matter of fairness, as I see it; belated as it is.

I have had a flurry of recent correspondences with Dennis Ford, James Folliard (who have written some pieces for Fourth Decade) and others. One quote from one of them I found hard to resist forwarding to you goes something like (commenting on HEL) "After reading Charles Harrelson's letter to you, and how well it is written, I am wondering if he shouldn't have written a book and Harry shouldn't be in jail." (You have a copy of this letter from late 1992 to me answering my question about his accused involvement.) I have yet to hear from Harry from my letter to him of over two months ago about what I proposed to critique in my review of Torturing the Truth. It has been submitted, including Joe Riley's rather pointed remark ("Harry's not just pyschotic, he's psychopathic.") which you also have. Jerry Rose (on the phone) said he hoped I hadn't put that in there, since, he said, he wouldn't promote "name calling." I told him that I did, indeed put it in there, not to be vicious, but to show how much out of touch with reality Harry is that he would use so much of Riley's stuff in his book not realizing that Joe is no friend. I also quoted several excerpts from Harry himself in his book such as "I never denied being nuts."

Jerry Rose's comments about Evica were made on the telephone and not by mail. He puts very little in letters, I suppose to be careful and, in his view, to be above the disputes that occur between those who submit articles for his journal. He did in fact say directly that he was aware (later) of what Evica tried to do and acknowleddged that this was proposed to Wrone, and was foolish for the attempt.

To go back to my review, I did point out with direct quotes how Harry praised you in the introductions to his first two books, then turned around and said exactly the opposite in Torturing. It just seems that he expects everyone to patiently wait until he finally gets it right, but that everyone else is either a disinformation agent or too communist or too fascist to be listened too; but not him!

Going back to the article I wrote on Case Closed, which you referred to in your previous letter, and my comments about the readability of your books: that isn't necessarily a criticism. After all, to me (and apparently the magazine press), Posner's is very readable to the point of being "slick," but if what he is saying is not credible, of what value is it other than negative? Further, you were right two years ago when I visited and you said "Are you reading my books IN ORDER?" As it was, I started with Post Mortem because I had it first, mainly because it was the only one I could get through the main distributer of my book store. Once I started with Whitewash and didn't try to read it like a novel, I found the style quite understandable and enjoyable. You tend to remember what you read.

One of the clerks at my local book store (B. Daulton's) has a friend she went to school with who was one of the freelance researchers (not Russo) for the Frontline show. She gave him a copy of my notes and questions on it (from the back of an envelope - like Lincoln?) and he is going to respond. I will also encourage them to pick up a few copies of Selections from Whitewash for stock.

By now you should have received not only the package of Clif Marks annotations to his references in the U. S. News letter he wrote, but the tape, brief as it is (sans the Frontline show since you said you had it), with various news and show reports on various assassination subjects; mostly interviews. I suspect that this letter is crossing another of your in the mail. There is a lot of blank tape left on it; use it as you please with my compliments. I thought that you might find the Jowers tape especially of interest. It looks pretty obvious to me that, because he has a lawyer, and the lateness of this revelation, and the fact the lawyer won't let him say more until he gets prosecutorial immunity, what is going on here is making money.

I am sure the address labels will pop up just like the Clif Marks material did. I have enclosed in the wrapper more plus a stamp. I would like to ask (even though I have one other of your books signed) if you will sign and date the front, colored side of the enclosed book plate for my copy of Selections. No hurry.

I do wish your wife the best in her surgery, My great uncle had it done in one eye, I recall, and went around with one thick lens, and eventually one (glasses) lens that he took out (the one with no surgery). I am sure that that and your writing keeps you very busy, but think how much you have accomplished in the past few months for others.

I will be at Parris Island for an educational tour of the Marine base there January 26-28. I have to pay $30 food, $50 lodging; the rest is on Uncle Sam. Having not been in the military, it is a valuable experience for me, I think, though hardly an unbiased one.

My friend and young teaching colleague Mike Kuri received his books in good shape and was impressed with the autographed copy. He is voraciously working through the Whitewash series and has loaned the school library's copy of Post Mortem to his father to read.

I think I told you that I received a hand-written note from Posner. If I didn't send you the contents of that, and you wish to have it, please let me know. Other researchers have told me they didn't expect him to respond. I think I told you that he has read my review and said he will deal with most of those issues in the paperback due out in September.

I am now finishing Peter Dale Scott's Deep Politics. This seems to me to be along the lines of Davis's Mafia Kingfish, not in topic, but in all these relationships of who-knew-who-knew-who as if that in and of itself suggests a conspiracy. Like Bob Harris's speeches on the subject, Scott tends to tie, seemingly, every foreign policy and political event (that he considers bad) for the past 45 years or more to the Kennedy assassination. I get the impression that this (the assassination) is considered just one more expected event in the chain of events of American power politics. Maybe. I'm not so sure anyone has that much total control or that Kennedy's murder was necessarily that deep.

I have taken long enough. I try to save up a lot of what I want to say for one letter, rather than a bunch. Thanks again for the book; I am most appreciative.

Best wishes and health to you and your wife.

Sincerely,

Dave Keck

Dave Keck

P. S. At your request, I will stop the "mistering." That is a product of my upbringing. As you recall, Harry was more offended that I referred to you as "Harold" to him in a letter in 1992 that you have, even though he seemed comfortable with it for himself. I see it as a sign of respect until told to proceed otherwise by the person most affected - you. You have been so patient, considerate, and helpful to me over the past two years, I do consider you as a friend. I'll bet I was one of the first to call you "Dr. Weisberg." Check the first letter after your honorary degree at Hood.

Dave K

Encloures (2)